3-17-00

OPINION

Letters to the editor come in response to the column on homosexuality last week.

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Dean's list

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SPORTS

Monarchs fall short of state finals

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Valley Star

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Campus Scene

SPRING GROWTH CLASSES

- **When**: Begining April 1
- **Departments offering classes:** anthropology, economics, English, health, history, math, nursing, sociology, spanish, speech, and statistics.
- **Contact:** Office of Academic Affairs at 947-2326

UNIVERSITY REPS

University of California Los Angeles
- **When**: Mar. 29
- **Time**: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Cal. State University Northridge
- **When**: Mar. 27
- **Time**: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Northern Arizona University
- **When**: Mar. 16
- **Time**: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- **Where:** Career / Transfer Center in Administration Bldg. Room 126

DEAN'S RECEPTION
- **When**: April 5
- **Time**: 2 p.m.

'CHOOSE A MAJOR' WORKSHOP

Where: Monarch Hall
- **When**: Apr. 4
- **Time**: 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.

or
- **When**: Apr. 6
- **Time**: 12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m.
- **Where:** Career / Transfer Center in Administration Bldg. Room 126

HEALTH FAIR EXPO
- **When**: Apr. 6
- **Time**: 2 p.m.
- **Where:** Monarch Hall & Monarch Square

WOMEN IN HIGHER EDUCATION
- **When**: March 27-29
- **National Teleconference**
- **For Information:** Contact Anita Rios (612) 625-2385 E-mail: wihe@tc.umn.edu

Students protest

■ PETITION: Students disagree with administrative decision to fire popular teacher and speech coach.

By KARI STROUTH
STAR REPORTER

More than 40 students marched to Valley College President Tyree Wieder's office Tuesday protesting the firing of Yancy Duncan, director of forensics and assistant professor of speech.

"He's a great teacher," said Adam Chirchick, organizer of the protest and a Speech 101 student.

Chirchick had circulated a petition against the termination and submitted it to Wieder with about 150 signatures.

Because of the number of students, Wieder and Susan Carleo, vice president of academic affairs, met with them in the President's Conference Room.

"We're here to show the administration he is the best teacher on campus," said student Mike West. "The way he taught me to study helped me in other classes."

"I have the message and I hear your concerns," Wieder said to the students. However, Wieder said it is a personnel issue and would not comment about Duncan.

According to documents reviewed by the Valley Star, a complaint was filed by a student and the administration rated Duncan as unsatisfactory for the following reasons: improper and unethical relationship with a student, having a student participate in competitions who was not registered as a student, possibly violated the policy on consuming alcohol with students, and letting students out of class early.



Cathy Koebel/Valley Star

Adam Chirchick leads the students on the march to Tyree Wieder's office.



Cathy Koebel/Valley Star

Adam Chirchick receives petition from Valley College student protesting dismissal of a teacher on campus.

> "He always takes time for his students."
>
> *Valentine Khachadoari student*

The Report of Investigation by the district said "the complainant and Mr. Duncan engaged in a consensual sexual relationship that was initiated by the complainant."

Duncan said that he did not know that one of his speech competitors, who had been a registered student at Valley, was not registered in any classes last semester.

"Administration knew and never told me until the evaluation," said Duncan.

Duncan said he attended a wedding of two former students and there were other students there and alcohol was served. "What I do on a Saturday afternoon is my business," Duncan said.

Twice he let class out early so that students could go to the campus library for research, said Duncan.

Duncan teaches Speech 101 and coaches the speech team. In his four and a half years at Valley the teams have won hundreds of awards in state and national competitions, Duncan said.

"Last year we were the only team to take two gold medals in sweepstakes," said Duncan. "It's the best Valley College has done in the history of the college."

According to an administrative evaluation of Duncan by Carleo, there were "great lapses in Mr. Duncan's ability to perform the essential functions of his job in an effective and professional manner."

Students would disagree.

"He is an amazing coach," said Rachel Blumenber of the speech team.

"He always takes time for his students," said student Valentine Khachadoari.

Yet according to the evaluation, "his treatment of students for his own personal self-gratification destroys the sense and intellectual growth essential for all students to learn."

When the team went to the nationals in Nebraska, Duncan himself paid for some of the costs of student, Danny Shea. "All our reputation and prestige we've earned will be lost with the loss of him," Shea said.

"I never wanted to leave Valley," said Duncan. "I like teaching here."

Duncan has filed a grievance with the local guild of the American Federation of Teachers.

Job fair at Valley to recruit students



Karen Goldman/Valley Star

Students consult with representative at job fair.

■ JOBS: Excellent turnout at annual event

By ANDREA ZOLLMAN
STAR REPORTER

Students milled about Monarch Hall at the annual job fair March 8.

Employers from about 60 companies, including RAND, Sears, Six Flags Magic Mountain and Mission Community Hospital, plus several law enforcement agencies, sought to recruit Valley College students for internships, part- and full-time work.

Hanna Petterson, the director of the Job Resource Center and Cooperative Education at Valley, organized the fair.

The turnout was wonderful, said Tony Jaramillo, with the Job Training Partnership Act program at Valley.

Interviewing Service of America, located in Van Nuys and Alhambra, needs part-time employees to conduct market research surveys.

"It's not sales at all," said Tamara Stevens of Interviewing Service of America. Conducting surveys all over the world, they pay more to employees who speak foreign languages.

Six Flags Magic Mountain and Hurricane Harbor of Los Angeles need seasonal employees to work front line positions in areas including games, food service, merchandising and ride operations.

With flexible hours, "it's a great place to work," said Barbara, from Six Flags. Six Flags offers training and will open seven days a week starting April 1.

Another employer offering training is the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. Hiring both custody assistants and deputy sheriffs, they train new employees in all aspects of law enforcement, both physical and academic.

The sheriff's department needs people who are willing to serve the community and possess leadership qualities, deputy sheriff Raul De Loa said. A college degree is helpful because employees can earn a higher salary.

Marilyn Galins, a registered nurse and clinical educator at Mission Community Hospital, praised Valley's nursing program. She advised nursing students to get experience in the health care field.

Teresa Izzo, who started with Sears when she was 17 and is now a store trainer at the North Hollywood location, said working for Sears is a great opportunity. Sears offers tuition reimbursement to its employees after one year of working at least 20 hours a week. Sears also has a ride share program.

Ovsana Kazanchyan, an accounting student at Valley, found only one accounting position offered by the employers participating in the job fair. Otherwise, she thought the fair was great. She wants to see more job fairs at Valley, she said.

The students were serious about looking for work, Pettersson said.

Crime Watch

There was no reported crime this week

Dean's List - Fall Semester 2000

Full-time students

Zakaria Aatti, Danny S. Abergel, Michael A. Abraham, Melissa Abramovicz, Marife C. Adriano, Christine Aguba, Haroutoun Aharonian*, Memory Ahmed, Knarik Alajian, Dustin R. Alcala*, Carlo A. Aldaya, Ana P. Alfaro-Garcia, Nilo H. Alibutod Jr., Thomas R. Allsmiller, James L. Altermatt, Angela N. Althen, Dania M. Alvarenga, Ruben Alvarez*, Wendy Alvarez, Ghadir N. Amirnezhad, Joseph J. Angel, Richard Angulo, Jose L. Aparicio, Mary K. Aramian, Javier I. Arce, Alla Artachessian, Matthew S. Artin, Alma Arvizu, Nayira Arzumanyan, Ephrem Asfaw, Sam Astrahan, Sandeep S. Atwal, Sandra L. Austin, Leilani F. Ayson, Madlen Ayvazian, Anait Ayvazyan, Kristina Babayants, Tracy J. Bachman, Alona Bahat, Mark F. Bailey, Genevieve E. Baker, Brandon E. Balin, Marnel C. Baradi, Arturo O. Barajas, Illana M. Barkey, Dominique C. Barnett, Arthur Barsegyan, Yana Barsky, Lydia S. Basmajian, James W. Baumbach, Shogik Begeyan, Parastou Beheshti-Tehrani*, Justin E. Bell*, Maria A. Beltran, Talia Ben, Pamela M. Bentley, Becky Berger, Svetlana Bezgubenko, Helen N. Boek, Stephen Bohjalian, Alexander Bojkov*, Yevgenia Boksar, Donaji Bolanos*, Isabella Bolotsky, Robert Bootehsaz, Amber C. Booth, Patricia A. Bordner, Jennifer L. Bowman, Joseph A. Bradshaw, Karen D. Braggs, Janine L. Bronson, Karen D. Brown, Pilar E. Brown, Maria V. Brunese, Michelle C. Burgess*, Robert F. Burgess, Christian Caceres, Netaly Calif, Maria G. Cameron, Theresa A. Campbell, Nicole C. Capps, James J. Carrozo*, Brian M. Casey, Aimee E. Castrejon, Corinne Castro, Oscar S. Cespedes, Oksana E. Chaban, Stephanie A. Chang, Sheikh T. Cheragee, Sarah M. Chipowsky, Patricia A. Colbert*, Launalee M. Collins, Ray N. Combs, Cherry A. Cordero, Rudolph Cordero, Chloe A. Corwin, Jose D. Covarrubias, Judith Cruz, Song S. Cun, Dominic G. Curran, Manolo Da. Valeria Danielyan, Richard N. Danlag, Pongte Dansirimitri, Hilary J. Davis, Jeremiah R. Davis, Alta Davoudi, Armine Davtian*, Zemfira Davtyan, Diana Dayani, Ibeth A. De, Shannon L. Deck, Iggy S. DeGuzman, Monina S. DelaCruz*, Yeprui Demirdzhyan, Crystal D. Deones, Joshua A. Dessalines*, Florence E. Diaz, Sonia E. Diaz, Charlene R. Dickerson, Brian L. Domin, Fira Dond, Danelle R. Doucette, Brendan A. Doyle, Gary M. Duby, Marilene C. Ducourant, Kimberly A Dusenbury, Eleonora Dyakova*, Mercy I. Eke-Musa, Ali M. Elarabi*, Ronit J. Elbaz, Barbara I. Ele, Suzanne D. Elliot, Samuel O. Esan*, Gunercindo A. Espinoza*, Carolina Estrada, David N. Evans, Daniel K. Fack, Nea Falconi, Shana L. Farrell, Victoriano L. Fernandez, Anthony C. Ferrara*, Anthony E. Fierro, Maria R. Figueroa, Daniel J. Flanders, Gladis C. Flores, Nalinthip Fowler, Regina Foygel, Sue D. Frank, Sofya M. Frayman*, Ella Fridman, Mika Fujimori, Angelo S. Gaddi*, Christopher S. Gagne, Louisa Gamil, Dyan C. Ganzell, Cecile J. Garcia, Lucero L. Garcia, Rose E. Garcia, Robert D. Gardner, Marine Gasamanyan, Aram Gasparyan, Dominic J. Gasperi, Monique D. George, Mariam Gevorgyan, Robyn D. Gibbons, Jennifer L. Gilbert, Valentina Goldberg*, Karen S. Goldman, Maryanna Goldvash, Gustavo A. Gomez, Marta O. Gomez, Dalia V. Gonzalez, Maria E. Gonzalez, Vanessa Gonzalez, Elena Gonzkin*, Erik M. Greenberg, Carolyn S. Grisso, Janet Guzman, Armenouhi Habeshian*, Meital Hadad, Raynie A. Hagstrom, Jamie V. Hancock, Kara E. Hardman*, Zorik Haruthunian, Erin Hayes, Athena T. Haynes, Russell A. Heckman, Dennis Heider, Sophorn Hem*, Rafael E. Henriquez*, Norma L. Hernandez, Maria D. Herrera, Nidfel N. Herrera, Lois E. Higgins, Victoria R. Hill, Hrach R. Himidian, Sachie Hirono*, Michelle Hirsch, Susan C. Hiscock*, Hoang N. Hoang, Vi T. Hoang, Ursula J. Holz, Kenneth T. Howard, Heather L. Hunt*, Miron Iincev*, Carrie A. Inverno, Victoria P. Irzhevsky*, Alina Iskoyan, Meyer Izaac, Nancy G. Jacobo, Susan C. Jadidi, Amanda L. Jegel*, Shomari J. Jennings, Patricia A. Jesionowski, Robert T. Jeters*, Carol D. Jones, Sandra L. Jones, Soyeon Jung*, Rebecca K. Kaelinchappell, Irin Kalimullov*, Matthew Karimi-Pouia, Svetlana Kats*, Ramy E. Kaufler, Sharon S. Kavon, Maria E. Kay, Hasmik Kazaryan*, Jelena P. Kecojevic*, Lorraine F. Kerens, Arousiak Keseyan, Talin S. Kevorkian, Sonya Khachatryan, Michael Khorramian, Vazrik Khosrovian, Arpine Khostegyan, Anahit F. Khrimyan, Hyunwoo Kim, Kristine J. Kim, Alena V. Klimava, Prathana R. Knapp*, Blanche D. Knight, David Y. Ko, Malina K. Koani-Guzman, Yervand Kochar, Catherine F. Koebel, Armin R. Kohanteb*, Jiraphol Koosmith, Leeni K. Kosonen*, Ksenia Koutina, Marina Kozelkina, Vadim Kozhevnikov, Milana Kozulin*, Debra J. Kraus*, Ronen Krausz*, Anna I. Kruchinina, Yuliya Krumer, Svetlana Z. Krupenina, Kayo Kurume*, Susanna Kvasznai-Buday*, Yuliya V. Kyseleva, Valeriya Landa*, Carrie P. Landin, Bonnie M. Landry, Prudencia Lares, Abha Lazarus, Laura Lemus, Julia Levin, Orly Levy, Janet E. Lewallen, Sarina N. Lewis, Poyan Li, Jae M. Lim, Marcela D. Linares, Mari L. Linville, Miriam P. Liongco, Bonnie I. Loox*, Jennifer Lopez, Marianna Lozovsky, Viviana Lucas, Janet M. MacGregor, Samuel O. Madumere, Ana B. Magana, Lourdes F. Magbitang, Elizabeth Majchrowicz, Tomomi Makabe, Christine Malone, Alexi Mancuso, Shira S. Mandel, Alexandru Mangu, Svyatoslav Marchenko, Youssra Marjoua, Jean-Michael Marot, Jean-Nicholas Marot, Diana J. Martin, Erik D. Martin, Juan C. Martinez * ,Maribel Martinez, Nancy Martinez, Yana Marutyan, Yuliya Marutyan * ,John F. Maselli, Mayuko Matsumoto, Norifumi Matsushita, Michele S. McCarthy, Colleen K. McDonald * ,Teresa E. McDonald, Travis E. McGivern * ,Denise M Medema, Elena H. Medvedeva, Rasesh R. Mehta, Marisol Mejia, Patrick Melikian, Rouzanna Melikian, Luis A. Meraz, Stephanie J. Mercede, Sherry R. Merz * ,Frida Merzakhanian, Madejda G. Meshkova, Jean Michel * ,Michele Middleton, Tara A. Midiri, Yana Milchina, Carrie L. Miller, Jenifer A. Miller, Michael H. Milov, Marine A. Minasyan, Mariya Mischenko, Arya Moghavemy-Tehrany , Blair N. Monterrosa, Timothy M. Montgomery * ,Franklin G. Montiel, Maria Moralschug * * ,Deborah L. Morgan, Yanina Morgenstein*, Grant L. Morris, Paul W. Morris, Michael D. Murphy * ,Keita Nagare, Lilia Najaryan, Rudy M. Necdechea, Jessica Nesmith, Megan P. Newell, Anhthu Nguyen * ,Hung V. Nguyen * ,Long Q. Nguyen, Ly Nguyen, Nhung T Nguyen, Quan M. Nguyen, Tiffany M. Nguyen * ,Trang H. Nguyen * ,Danielle B. Nieves, Kaori Nishino, Cynthia A. Nuno, Larisa Oganesian, Shoko Ogawa, Steven G. Onken, Robin E. O'Shaunnessy, Rosemarie Ostoich, Roman Otkupman, Micah J. Owens, Tanya M. Owens, Ma Cessilia D. Pablico, Ophelia A. Pacheco, Josue N. Padron, Daesung S. Pak, Mariam Pakshyan, Mario A. Parada, Ryan D. Parish * ,Megan T. Parker, Julia B. Parmenter, Angelica Pelayo, David M. Perea, Patricia M. Perez, Regina Perlovskaya, Nezy M. Perumbral, Anahit Petrosyan, Szimonetta M. Pettermann, Youlia N. Peytcheva, Don A. Pham * ,Abigail Pina, Lucia Pineda, Anton Pletikosic, Craig E. Plost, Dolly M. Poggio, Anthony Popovic, Delia L. Porras, Juan C. Posada, Nykisha T. Potts, David A. Pougatsch, Juan G. Preciado, Gina M. Qudsi, Edwin E. Quinonez, Donald P. Rabjohn, Kristen L. Radford, Eva Raitt, Timothy J. Ramage * ,Elena Rasin-Vayner, Roberta A. Rel, Alberto J. Reynoso, Rona O. Ricana, Daniel S. Rios, Zinaida Rizhavskaya, Sera Robine * ,Inna Rogachyova, Debra L. Rogers, Hsin-Neh D. Rogers, Daniel I. Rojas, Desiree M. Rose, Steven Ross, Michael J. Rowinsky, Damian R. Rozanka * ,Christopher S. S. Ryan, Lertsak Saengthai * ,William P. Safian, Anoosh Safiani, Marine Sagradyan, Meiko Saito * ,Jenessa J. Salcedo, Bobby D. Samuels, Maria E. Sanchez, Julie B. Sandell, George K. Sarandev, Diana Sarkisova, Stella Sarkisyan, Zhanna Sarkisyan, Mger M. Saryan, Yuri Sasayama, Hana Sastiel, Christopher C. Schneider, Michael J. Schofield, Renee L. Sdao, Conrad S. Selorio, Timothy B. Sexauer, Dawn M. Shaffer, Elmira Shalumova, Halleh Shalviri, Mariam Shamamyan, Carla S. Shammas, Marguerita A. Shapiro, Kristine M. Shaw * ,Aisha Sheikh, Tatyana S. Shipillo, Kentaro Shirahata * ,Robert C. Shoff, Bronislava Shulman * ,Rimma Shvarts, Sotivear Sim, Carmit Simantov * ,Cassandra N. Simon, Gary A. Simpson, Cynthia C. Sirmons, Ruslana O. Sitnikova, Irena Sklyarova, Natalya Slobodyanyuk, Stephen D. Smedberg, John G. Smith, Anait Sogbatian, Svetlana Sogbatyan, Tony T. Soottinanchai, Albert Soukiassian, Lisa R. Spoor, Robin C. Stalbaum, Araksi Stepanyan, Lusine Stepanyan, Brandon N. Stephens, Shelley K. Stiles, Kari L. Strouth, Anait Sulukyan, Claudia S. Sweener * ,Hiroko Tada, Maki Tanaka * ,Priyanart Tanasuwankasem, Anna Tarakhchyan*, Lisa Tashtchian, Armine G. Tchoukhadjian, Stylianos L. Tellis * ,Vincent L. Teopaco, Anna Ter-Oganesyan, Ashutosh Tewari, Christina J. Thenutai, Lillian C. Thomas, Lakecia A. Tinsley, Galina M. Tkachuk, Hong A. To, Dawn R. Todd, Maria A. Tonione, Susan Topchyan, Patricia Torres, Victoria Torsky, Judit Toth, Mary Touresian, Lilit Tovmasian * ,Trinidad M. Trejo * ,Beau C. Trojan * ,Marina Tsarukyan, Arkady Tselner, Gyongyi S. Tucsane, Jose Turcios * ,Charles B. Turner, Eddie A. Vaisman, Karen L. Valentine, Pedro L. Vallejo, Orley Vanunu * ,Victor Varadi Jr. ,Loreny P. Vargas, Patricia C. Vargas * ,Panayiota N. Varlokostas*, Vitaliya Vaynshteyn, Sofia M. Ventrella, Judith A. Verduzco, Ariel C. Viramontes, Dov W. Viramontes, Irina V. Volkova, Lacie E. Wainess, Dathan D. Walters, Alistair A. Weir, Jonathan Weir, Wen Ling, James A. Whiteman * ,Jonathan S. Winnick, Steven J. Winston, John V. Winterhalter, David Wolkenfeld, Larry E. Wooldridge, Deirdre Y. Wright, Khamphanae Xaymountry, Yacov Yagen, Peter Yakas, Daniela Yanez * ,Mariam Yaralyn, Michael M. Yasunaga, Anna Yepremyan, Sod B. Yoon * ,Roubina Younesi, Jose C. Zaragoza, Javier B. Zepeda, Vitaliya V. Zhitskiy, Emily L. Ziegler, Rita Zohrabian, Laurena Zuber, Naseem Y. Zubi, Lisa L. Zung.

Part-time students

Fawad Z. Abbaszadeh*, Lyudmila S. Abelis, Karolina Aberkova*, Leslie Acevedo*, Lorena Acosta, Paula L. Acuna, Patricia A. Adams, Gretchen A. Adams-Smith, Julia Agadzhanyan, Jacklin Agajanian, Rafael E. Aguilar, Roxana M. Aguilar, Tomas E. Aguilar*, Mulex A. Aguirre, Kimberley A. Ahara*, Soo Ahn, Steve Ahn, Robin L. Aidikoff*, Mahin S. Alamdari, Fermin Alcaraz, Debra L. Alden, Carlos L. Alessio, Benson C. Alexander, Alia S. Ali, Alma V. Alvarado, Hector A. Alvarez, Alfredo Amaya, Karen Amiel, Cheriff Amin, Artin Amiryan, Cheryl B. Anderson*, Gayle D. Anderson, Scott C. Anderson, Jorge J. Anguiano, Rocio G. Angulo, Agavni A. Antekelyan, Tereza T. Anyan, Filoteo R. Apeles, Sergio Arellano, Nathan Arendt, Blake Arnold, Grigory Arduchanov, Mikhail Arduchanov, Martin Aarredondo, Sonia R. Arriola, Daniel L. Arroyo, Harout K. Arslanian, Jesus A. Artiga, Karine Arutyunyan, Sherrilyn J. Austin, Gumersindo Avalos, Henrik Avedian, Anita Avidisan*, Ana G. Aviles, Jose M. Ayala, Dony Azali, Hasmik Azatyan*, Sheylla N. Azurdia, Greta Babaian, Dahlia L. Bagnis*, Noelle R. Bailey-Wade, Vladislav Bakal*, Ghada Bakhos, Silverio Balbuena, Marina Banik, Pnina Barak, Leatrice P. Barnes, Carmit Baror*, Erica L. Barragan, Michelle Barraza*, Vitaliy Barskiy*, Michelle S. Bartlett, William C. Bartley, Sandor Batyi, Lisa K. Baxter, Adrienne L. Beale*, Matthew J. Beaudoin, Victoria L. Beck, Mark O. Beckwith, Yliana A. Bedoya, Hilda Bekijansaki, Rita Belaya, Melissa Beltran, Edward E. Benavides, Mirna L. Benitez, Joyce M. Benson-Cobb, Michael M. Bermann, Josette M. Berroteran, Marie K. Berry, Gianluca Bersanetti*, Anelka A. Berudzhanyan, Marina A. Bezinover*, Zina Beznos, Natalya A. Bichuch, Bernadette Birkett*, William B. Birtrell, Deborah A. Blakely, Daniel J. Blanco, Agnieszka Blazejko*, Tracey C. Blazer*, Kelly A. Bloomfield, Catherine Blore*, Rachel S. Blumenberg, Leonid Blyumberg, Lyudmila Bochkis*, Jennifer M. Bodar, Joanne Bolan*, Marion Bolden, Raul N. Bonilla III, Traci Y. Boomhower, Deborah D. Borah, Gloria M. Borysewicz, Ronnie J. Bossier, Camille Bourque, Barbara M. Bowen, Sandy H. Bowles, Nancy Bradley*, Lesly D. Braun, Lourdes V. Bravo, Mounir Breiche, Anthony D. Brown, Gabrielle A. Brown, Judith K. Brown, Julie M. Brown, Ivania L. Bryan, Susan M. Bryant, Mary E. Buckley, Anja Buetergeros, Melissa H. Buettner*, Kristie A. Burgess, Kimberly C. Burns, Clinton T. Butler, Yakov Butterfield, Emily E. Cabrera, Lorenzo R. Caceres, Sharyn J. Cadia, Alex V. Calderon, Brandy D. Calvet, Amy F. Calzia, Jose S. Camargo, Elizabeth J. Campbell, Wendy I. Campos, Saundra J. Cannady*, Heidi L. Carofano, Lorraine M. Carrier, Andrea E. Carrillo, Matthew D. Carter, Arnold Casillas, Emma Castaneda, Sandra V. Castaneda, Lino E. Castanon, Ana M. Castillo, Henry R. Castillo, Rhodora R. Castillo, Diana S. Castle, Lawrence Celis, Patricia A. Cera, Sedighen Cervenka*, Anna Chachikian, Christy D. Chambers, Leslie B. Channon*, Jazmin D. Chavarria, Linda I. Chavez, Veronica P. Chavez, Vincent T. Chavez*, Paichayon Chawareeyawong, Barbara A. Cheen, Lauren M. Cheever, Alice H. Chen*, Lee Childs, Pawandip S. Chima, Stephen S. Cho, Sun S. Choi, Roongtum Chongolnee, Manisha Chowdhry, Esther Chung, Juliana K. Chung, Jacob G. Cipes, Javier Cisneros, Araceli Clara, Birgitta L. Clark, Bunny D. Clode, Joyce D. Coakes, Melissa Cocek, Betty L. Cofield, Linda M. Cohen, Nurit Cohen-Fischer, Stephanie B. Cohn*, Lilian D. Colindres, Leonides I. Collazo, Frances J. Collette*, Emma J. Collins, Ferdinand D. Colon, MariaElena Columbus, Adriana A. Coman, Angelica Contreras, Ruthanne Contreras, Elizabeth Corona, Kelly A. Corrigan, Yayr E. Cortes, Cynthia I. Cortez*, John B. Cox, Hideko Cross, Ronald M. Cross, James M. Crowley, Ana L. Cruz, Carly A. Cummings, Mandy M. Cunning, Sybil L. Curry, Carlo Daghlian, Rita R. Dail, Joshua E. Dalin, Rosita M. Danting, Alisa Darakchyan, Luke C. Davis, Teresa M. Davis, Gayaneh Davoodians, Aram V. Davtyan, Pamela M. Day, Ana G. Debenedictis, Nancy E. Dechannes*, Maryam Dehmardan, Joseph A. Delahunt*, Yvonne M. Delapaix*, Maria G. Delatorre, Daniel J. Delay, Antoinette L. Deleon, Bonnie E. Delgadillo, Julie M. Delgado, Katherine L. Delgado*, Carl F. Demarco, David G. Demarco, Louis T. Demarest*, Roobina Dergevorkian, Kasey L. Derington*, Artin T. Derohanian, Jennifer L. Deroze, Gladys D. Descargar, Linda L. Desmond, Linda D. Devenow, Steven C. Devore*, Arturo Di, Irene Diaz, Jorge Diaz, Zaida Diaz, Carla Dibenedetto, Truong C. Dinh, Hoa H. Doan, Nicole A. Docan, Jemima M. Doce, Kaori Doi, Monica M. Donley, Anne K. Douglas, Ani Dovlatyan, Gillian A. Doyle, Denia V. Duarte, Oscar M. Duarte, Veronica Duarte*, Walter E. Duarte, Sarita Ducksworth, April M. Duenas, Shauna L. Dunne, Darlene D. Duralia, Diana Duran, Marian J. Duval, Mathew R. Easter, Matthew D. Egan, Georgiy A. Elfond*, Michael C. Ellenshaw, Harriet M. Elliott, Aida Elyasian*, Patricia B. Encarnacion*, Joseph C. 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Editorial....

Athletes need vocational training to deal with fame

What has happened to modern athletes? It is perhaps unfair and probably unwise to expect them to act as role models, considering the temptations they face as celebrities and the corruption that such status brings. But we should be able to have the playing field free of felons and an assurance that their fame doesn't shield them from the same accountability shared by the rest of society.

In recent months the National Football League has been the focus of this escalating problem. Rae Carruth, the former Carolina Panther receiver, and current Baltimore Raven linebacker, Ray Lewis, have been separately accused of murder. Carruth made headlines after being arrested for allegedly plotting the shooting of his pregnant girlfriend. Lewis has been connected to the stabbing of two people outside a sports bar in Atlanta.

The problem isn't limited to the NFL but exists at all levels of every sport. Even though the majority of players who make it to the top are scandal free, the ones who make the news are the "bad boys." When you see a dirty floor in a clean house, it's the dirt that's remembered.

Athletes, like all public figures, enjoy perks that average people never experience and, like many of the rich and famous, their talents are seen early in life when there is a tendency by parents, teachers and contemporaries to fawn over them and give them special treatment.

This often continues through high school, and by the time they get to college their self-image is staggeringly out of whack. The incredibly small percentage who actually make it into a professional league must then contend with the eyes of the world focused on their every move.

All too often they are unprepared to meet the challenge. All too often they think and behave as if they are above the law that governs the rest of us.

The leagues have made some vague attempts at preparing them for this onslaught of attention, but much of the counseling is too little, too late.

Colleges have mandatory personal development courses designed to help students work the academic system. They prime the student for success by helping them design their college schedules and come to grips with the possible pitfalls ahead.

Athletes would very much benefit from a similar seminar on how to succeed in the professional world. Without such guidance we have seen a proliferation of abusive, anti-social and obnoxious behavior by people who, whether they like and accept it or not, are being watched by other people who admire and emulate them. They owe it to the fans, their fellow teammates, the sports world in general, and most of all the kids, to take the high road.

Only the unsigned editorials appearing on these pages represent the official opinions of the Valley Star. All columns, viewpoints and letters reflect the views of the individual authors.

Letters to the Star

Student's opinion on homosexuality under fire

I was appalled by the recent article on homosexuality that you allowed to be published for many reasons:

1) The writer has stated things that are NOT factual. In the 1970's the American Psychological Association removed homosexuality from the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders and there is NOT significant research to support that gay men and women have been molested more often than heterosexual men and women or that this is the "cause" of homosexuality.

2) The writer may also want to read more than one book to "research" a subject. There are numerous research articles and books on the subject matter of genetics and homosexuality. If the writer is so interested in this subject she might also want to ask herself what makes one heterosexual? Contrary to her article, for many gay men and women, being gay is not a choice.

3) If I wrote something that derogatory towards African-Americans, women or any other minority group, would you print it? I think not. Because proposition 22 passed does not give you the right to conclude that it is now time to bash gays even further. This is clearly a highly prejudicial article from a woman who herself is a minority. One would think she would understand what it is like to be treated unfairly.

Promoting hatred through use of the bible is exactly what contributes to horrible acts such as the brutal beating and murder of college student Matthew Shepard. Discrimination and hatred has also led to many gay teen suicides.

This campus is proud of its diversity and articles like this, which attempt to "use" God to promote hate and bigotry, are uncalled for. Please honor your policy of editing articles that make "sexually oriented denigrations."

Thank you,
Cherine M. Trombley, Ph.D.
Associate Dean, Research and Planning

Editors Note: The opinions expressed in AliDinar's column are hers alone and do not reflect those of the Editorial Board.

In her article (Valley Star, 3-9-00), "Homosexuality a distorted sexual identity has consequences of biblical proportions," Amirah AliDinar states that she went out to do some research. Clearly she sought out and found only "research" that would justify her own preexisting prejudices. AliDinar makes the argument that childhood sexual abuse is the cause for homosexuality. She vaguely asserts that "according to studies" a "significant number" of homosexuals are victims of child molestation, yet she neither provides the names of the researchers that allegedly did the studies nor any statistical data to give an iota of credibility to her argument. The argument that "a significant number" of heterosexuals are victims of child molestation is equally true. According to Doug Slater, a person cited by AliDinar, homosexuality is a choice made in early childhood. If childhood sexual molestation causes homosexuality, then it is not a choice. AliDinar has logically disproved her own point.

It is true that no proof of genetic causes for homosexuality has been found. Likewise, there is also no proof of a genetic cause for heterosexuality. Since there is no genetic proof for any form of sexuality, than by AliDinar's logic both hetero and homo sexuality must be choices. Yet she provides no sociological rationale as to why a person would "choose" to be homosexual when all of the societal benefits got to those who "choose" to be heterosexual.

As for AIDS being one of the consequences of being homosexual, according to the National Center for Disease Control, of the total reported 99,259 female cases of AIDS form 1985-98, 59% are Black (non-Hispanic).

By AliDinar's "distorted" logic that means that one of the consequences of being a Black woman is AIDS. Lesbians on the other hand have one of the lowest reported incidences of AIDS. Does that mean that Lesbians are not subject to the same consequences of being homosexual?

Finally AliDinar uses religious dogma in a failed attempt to give her personal bias credibility, a strategy used effectively throughout history to condemn many oppressed groups to death, including: Blacks, Women, Hispanics, Native-Americans, Armenians, Irish, Gypsies and Jews.

There are 613 laws in the Old Testament, and several thousand edicts of Paul, any selection of which can be used to hate anyone with ample biblical justification. AliDinar proves clearly that no matter how far you think society has come, there are going to be those people who lag far behind the rest. Even the Pope and the Archdiocese of Los Angeles have made apologies to the Gay and Lesbian community.

Richard M. Dickinson,
DSPS Interpreter coordinator
LAVC

When I first decided to respond to the hateful diatribe published in the March 9 Valley Star, some of my peers in Tau Alpha Epsilon told me it was futile to fight ignorance.

I can't accept that. I believe that a closed mind can become an open one, which is why I am responding to Amirah AliDinar's article. It makes my stomach turn to realize that such small-minded ideas still exist in the year 2000. What is it that makes one person fear another for being different? Why do we condemn some kinds of hatred while condoning others? Who are we to be making moral judgements about people we don't even know?

Ostracizing someone for their sexual preference is no different that ostracizing someone for the color of their skin, or even for their gender. These traits aren't chosen by human beings.

AliDinar points out that homosexuals are frequently alienated by family and friends when their sexual preference comes to light. If you knew you were making a choice that would alienated those people most important in your life, would you make that choice? Would you choose to become a victim of prejudice? Of course not, and neither do homosexuals. Where is the logic in AliDinar's point of view?

The argument given by AliDinar is one of theology. AliDinar quotes the bible to make her point. In essence, she is allowing a work of literature to be her moral compass. Shouldn't a moral compass be more than ink on paper? Shouldn't the human conscience be our moral compass?

Morality is knowing right from wrong and that is something found within a person's heart, not a book. The Bible wasn't written by God Himself, and if this is going to be a religious argument, that that needs to be pointed out.

The Bible is a series of stories written by various people at various points in time. If you search enough, you can find many contradictory notions within the pages of the Bible.

What you don't find is a hateful, vindictive God. God would not approve of this hatred that AliDinar preaches. Thou shalt not judge, right? I'd like to believe that if AliDinar followed her true moral compass, she would have to admit that hating someone for being different is not what God would want.

We are living in a world where our children are taking guns to school and murdering one another. If we want to worry about things that are wrong with society, maybe that would be a better place to start.

Clearly, there is already enough hate in this world without having to hate a person for being attracted to someone of the same sex. Let us open our minds and our hearts and learn to love and not judge those around us and surely, the world can become a better place. Thank you.

Anne Douglas
Student

PHOTO SURVEY

How did you vote on Proposition 22 and why?



"I believe that marriage should include just a man and a woman or else there will be no use for the family unit and there will be an increase in the marketing in artifical birth devices."

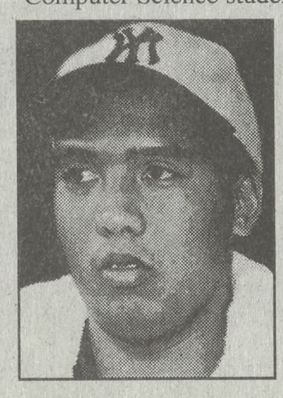
Albert Babakhanian
Computer Science student



"It's a new world and this is the step we have to take for equal rights."

Michela Kolberra
Student

Robert Dempcy/Valley Star



"I believe in the biblical principle that marriage should be between a man and a woman."

Adrian Garcia
Nursing major



"I voted yes on proposition 22. I believe that traditional marriage builds secure families and communities."

Mary Tourerian
Child Development

Write us a letter.....

The Valley Star would love to receive and, if possible, publish your letters. We reserve the right to condense letters for space considerations. Letters are limited to 250 words and are subject to editing if they are obscene, libelous, or make racial, ethnic, religious, sexist or sexually oriented denigrations. They must be signed and include the student's **ID number**. Letters may be addressed to the Valley Star c/o Los Angeles Valley College, 5800 Fulton Valley Glen, CA 91401 or left in the news room in BJ 114 by Friday morning for the next publication. They can also be placed in our mailboxes attached to one of our three yellow news stands, or e-mailed to vstar@laccd.cc.ca.us.

For Your Information

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SPORTS zone

SOFTBALL

Mar. 16 vs Santa Monica
Mar. 21 vs Canyons
Mar. 23 at Glendale
Mar. 25,26 at Rio Hondo tournament
Mar. 28 vs Citrus

BASEBALL

Mar. 16 at Glendale
Mar. 18 vs Bakersfield
Mar. 21 vs Citrus
Mar. 23 at Pierce
Mar. 25 vs Oxnard
Mar. 28 at Hancock

TRACK&FIELD

Mar. 18 Bakersfield College relays
Mar. 24 Santa Barbara relays

SWIM

Mar. 17 vs Chaffey
Mar. 24 vs Ventura

Monarch magic runs out

■ **Basketball:** Monarchs pull out an upset against Fresno City College at the State championships, before losing the next game by one point.

By VICTOR CORONA
STAR REPORTER

The Monarchs basketball season came to an end Friday, as a three point shot with three seconds remaining hit the rim and bounced off, giving College of the Sequoias a 96-95 win at Spanos Center in Stockton. The loss ended the Monarchs dream season at 27-9, becoming the first team in the school's 50 years to make it to the final four. "It's a great accomplishment," said coach Doug Michelson, after becoming the first men's team to reach the state championships. "We just orchestrated this thing. The players are the ones that defended, rebounded and scored points."

The day after pulling out the 81-75 upset win over Fresno City College, they took on a Sequoias team that upset the number one team in California, L.A. City College, to reach the final four. Their coach, Tarkanian, is the son of Coach Jerry Tarkanian of Fresno State

The game went back and forth as both teams changed leads throughout the game.

The Monarchs had a five-point lead with two and a half minutes left in the game, and two Monarch turnovers later the game was tied at 84 with 2:20 remaining. Two minutes and 14 seconds later Sequoia was up 96-94 with the Western State Player of the year, Felix Lang, at the foul line.

The Monarchs were set for overtime, but Lang's second free throw rimmed out. Miraculously, the ball went out of bounds after hitting a Sequoia's player. With three seconds remaining, forward Isaac Williamson took the ball out of bounds and looked inside for forward Terrance Slater, with a man in his face and no timeout left.

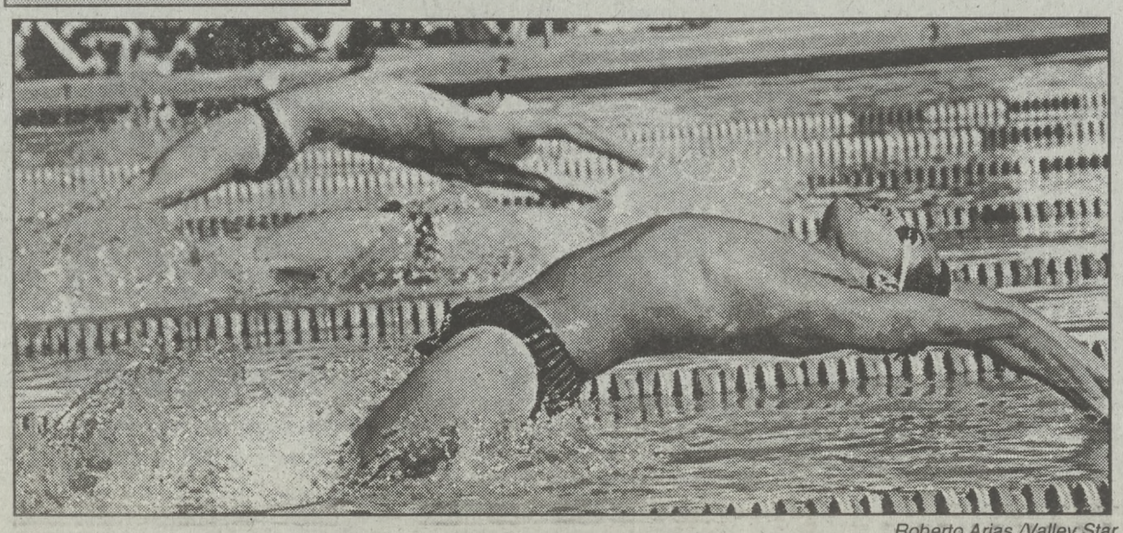
Williamson threw the ball to point guard Joe Bakhoum outside the three-point line. He threw the ball up and it hit the rim, bouncing off. "As soon as he let it go I was ready to celebrate," Bakhoum said.

The play was designed as a back door lob for Slater. "When Joe threw it, I started jumping. Everyone began to jump," Slater said. "The ball was on target that it hit the box on the backboard then rolled around the rim and came out I guess it just wasn't meant for us to win."



Cathy KoebelValley Star

Coach Doug Michelson talks to his team during the first round



Roberto Arias /Valley Star

The men dominated the swim meet, winning several of their events with improved times

Swim team leaves competion in their wake

By SOTIVEAR SIM
STAR REPORTER

The swimmers took their positions on the starting blocks, their muscle tensed in anticipation of the buzzer, and in a flash they exploded into the water leaving behind foam and bubbles in their wake as they moved effortlessly through the water.

The Valley College swimmers have trained hard for this season, holding workouts daily early in the morning and afternoon.

Their hard work and training is starting to pay off as was evident in their double dual meet last Friday against Santa Monica College and College of the Canyons where the men won 71-35 and the women lost 47-62.

"All of our swimmers swam well and in most cases had their season best times," said Coach Bill Krauss.

This season the Monarchs are a young and inexperienced team with many newcomers.

"There are a lot of new people," said Assistant coach Wonmeen Jun. "We have quite a few outstanding swimmers, and with hard work and training they can be very competitive."

The win at the conference meet was important for their confidence because of the poor showing at their first conference meet against Cuesta College.

"This meet shows us where we are at now and how hard we need to work to be where we want to be by the end of the season," swimmer Bryan Lang said.

The women's team was led by Shelly Stiles who won both the 100 interval medley with a time of 1:09.28 and the 100 breast stroke with a time of 1:13.95.

"The team is focused and we all want to do well," said Stiles.

The men were dominant in every event with three different swimmers winning in their respective events.

Bryan Lang won the 50 freestyle with a time of 24.66 and the 100 freestyle with a time of 54.04, followed by Mike Do's win in the 200 butterfly with a time of 2:03.3.

Even though swimming is more of an individual sport, the team concept is very important to their success.

"The relays are worth double the points as an individual event, so it's as much of a team sport as an individual sport," Lang said.

A key factor in the team's success can be attributed to the comaraderie among the swimmers. "We are a close knit group," said swimmer Maria Tonione.

When one of their teammates is swimming in an event the other members cluster on the opposite end of the pool to cheer him or her on.

"We really support each other," said Stiles.

Swim Update:

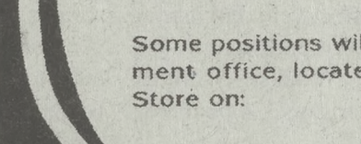
The Valley swim team competed in the Mt. Sac invitational on March 4 and 5 where they placed eighth overall among the 20 competing teams.

The two day meet was plagued by terrible weather and bitter cold. The next meet will be at Valley on Friday, March 17, against Chaffey College.

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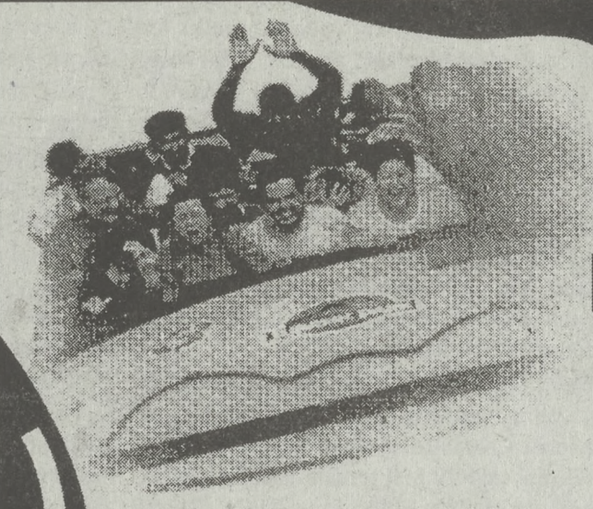
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